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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

39968

## INFORMATION REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY Austria

SUBJECT Communist Leaders Discuss Action Plans

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DATE OF INFO

SUPPLEMENT TO  
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1. An Austrian Communist Party meeting attended by approximately fifty persons was held on 26 June. Among those present were Gottlieb Fiala, who acted as chairman, Karl Steinhardt, Franz Honner, Friedl Furrberg, party delegates from USIA plants, and representatives of Land and Bezirk CP organizations. Fiala opened the meeting with the announcement that Braunsteiner, Austrian representative at Warsaw, was unable to attend, owing to unforeseen circumstances, but would be at the next committee meeting on 3 July.
  2. Fiala stated that the Italian general strike would be pushed through "unmercifully" and warned that Austrian Communists should not sit on the sidelines, but should help their Italian brothers. He remarked that the eventual revolution would be made easier in Austria because of the lack of an army or an adequate police force to oppose the workers.
  3. Discussing the Marek case, Fiala said that the Austrian Government and the western powers would soon be embarrassed by the Soviet publication of a list of Austrian agents working for the western allies.
  4. Fiala requested that all party officials submit lists of all absolutely reliable Communists, with special emphasis on former members of the Social Democratic Schutzbund. Committees are to be formed in each Bezirk to screen party members and to report on persons potentially dangerous to a future Communist state. Reports are also to be submitted on the size of arms depots and the strength of action groups of the opposition parties.
- 25X1A **Comment:** It is believed that these Bezirk committees will form the nuclei for Communist action committees.)
5. Fiala warned against individual action by party members and stressed the vital necessity of the party's working as a unit. He ordered members to follow only those paths indicated by responsible party leaders.
  6. Franz Nowotny, Vienna CP official, addressed the meeting and stated that the Russians had recently refused a request for arms for the Communist Selbstschutz. A similar request was made to the Yugoslav and Hungarian governments, and these declared themselves ready to arm and assist the
- 25X1A Austrian Communists. **Comment:** It was not mentioned whether arms

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were already being received.) Nowotny added that the Russians would continue to arm the Werkschutz.

7. Dubovsky, St. Poelten Bezirk leader, reported that forged Communist Party books had been printed and warned members against accepting party books as proof of membership.

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